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Funeral Set For Fletcher At Woodville

Funeral services for Judge Wil-lam Meade Fletcher, 73, a member of the Virginia State Corporation Commission since 1928 and widely known as an authority and author in the field of the law of corporations, who died here Sunday afternoon at his home in the Virginia Apartments, Fifth and Main Streets, after a brief illness of influenza, will be held at 2:30 P. M. Tuesday at Christ Episcopal Church, Woodville, Rappahannock County. Interment will be in the church cemetery.

Active pallbearers will be Judge H. Lester Hooker, Judge Thomas A. Ozlin, George A. Bowles, N. W. Atkinson, James M. Hayes, R. Gray Williams, Major Edwin H. Gibson and State Senator Aubrey

G. Weaver. Serving as honorary pallbearers will be Governor Colgate W. Darden, Senator Harry F. Byrd, Representative A. Willis Robertson, former Governor George C. Peery, Judge Burr P. Harrison, Ju stice George L. Browning, Judge J. R. H. Aleyander, justice of the Su-H. Alexander, justices of the Supreme Court and judges of the State and Federal judiciary, Rappahannock County officials and

panamock County officials and friends of the family.
Judge Fletcher was born at Sperryville Oct. 21, 1870, and was a son of James William Fletcher and Catherine Meade. His maternal grandfather was the Bt. ternal grandfather was the Rt. Rev. William Meade, Bishop of the Episcopal Diocese of Virginia and author of the widely known history, "Old Churches and Families of Virginia."

STUDIED LAW AT VA.

Judge Fletcher studied law at the University of Virginia, where he graduated in 1891 with the LL. B. degree.

After graduating at the university he resided, from 1891 to 1894, in Montana, where he practiced his profession and then moved to Chicago, where he practiced law from 1895 to 1904. From 1905 to 1912 he continued to practice both in Philadelphia and in Chicago and then practiced in Vir-

From 1899 to 1901 he was professor of law at the John Marshall Law School, in Chicago, and ney from 1901 to 1904 taught at Mr

Northwestern University.

In 1893 he served as special judge of the District Court of Cascade County, Mont., and in 1925-26 was judge of the Court of Juvenile and Domestic Relations of Papaghanneck County tions of Rappahannock County,

He had been a member of the Virginia State Corporation Commission since 1928, and had served as chairman of the commission to which he was first appointed by Governor Harry Flood Byrd.

He was a member of the Virginia Bar Association, the Illinois Bar Association, the Chicago Bar Association and the American Bar Association.

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He was the author of "Taxation of Franchises"; "A Treatise on Equity Pleading and Practice"; "Corporation Forms and Precedents"; "Treatise on the Incorporation and Management of Corporations in Illinois"; "Equity Pleading and Practice Forms"; "Cyclopedia of the Law of Private Corporations, 10 volumes"; also of "Corporation Forms and Precedents.

Judge Fletcher was twice married. His first wife was the former Florence Lea, to whom he in was married Feb. 18, 1896, and H whose death occurred in 1911. A He son of this first marriage is William Meade Fletcher, who is now with the RFC, in Washington.

Judge Fletcher's second wife, by whom he is survived, is the former

Martha Ball Buckner.

Besides his widow, Mrs. Martha Ball Buckner Fletcher, he is survived by two sons, William Meade and James Fletcher William Fletcher.

Tributes to Judge Fletcher as a scholarly gentleman and a lawyer of great ability were paid here today by Governor Darden and by Chairman H. Lester Hooker, of the State Corporation Commis-

Commenting upon Judge Fletcher's death, Governor Darden

said:

"I am distressed to learn of the loss of Judge Fletcher. He was a gentleman of rare ability and has made a notable contribution to Virginia's government over the years by his outstanding service as a member of the State Corporation Commission. He will be greatly missed by those of us who have served with him."

TRIBUTES PAID

Judge H. Lester Hooker, chairman of the State Corporation Commission, said:

"I am greatly distressed at the passing of my associate, Judge William M. Fletcher, with whom I have been so happily associated since he became a member of the State Corporation Commission.
"Judge Fletcher's work on the

commission has been singularly outstanding and will remain as a monument to him. He had an exceptionally brilliant and well-trained mind. As a lawyer, he had no superiors. He had a likeable and attractive personality, and his heart was as large as his mind. My associations with him have been of much help to me. We were the closest of friends and I loved him dearly."

Judge Ozlin, who was out of Richmond over the week end, returned to the city today to learn of Judge Fletcher's death. He said, "The death of my associate, Judge Fletcher, comes as a great shock; for more than 10 years we have been in daily contact as members of the State Corporation

Commission.

"In the passing of Judge Fletcher, Virginia loses one of her most brilliant minds, and a man of singular devotion to public duty and all things which were for the best interests of the State," Judge Ozlin said. "I cherish the years of association with him, because of the great assistance he has been to me. His forthright and charming manner attracted all who were privileged to know him. The en-tire staff of the commission will miss him sadly."

instances of the brilliance of Judg Fletcher's approach to corporation problems. It was his custom to sit at the bench during commission hearings with a newspaper spread before him. To all outward appearances he was absorbed in the columns of the New York Daily News, and attorneys appearing before the commission for the first time frequently were astonished when Judge Fletcher would suddenly interrupt argument with a sharp question penetrating to the heart of the legal point involved.

Friends recalled today the speed at with which Judge Fletcher pulled the meat from heavy legal bones. ab fie He read entire paragraphs and bel pages at a single glance, and shu months later could quote the ex- inf act wording of a particular sentence, his associates recalled.

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